

section of the Master Plan—Plan of Study shall be developed consistent with the guidelines described in this part.

(5) Public participation processes utilized by the Commission in developing the Master Plan shall aim for the highest achievable standards of objectivity and thoroughness consistent with other requirements of the Act and the intent, concepts, ideas, and basic tenets of the Principles and Standards for Planning Water and Related Land Resources published by the Water Resources Council in the FEDERAL REGISTER, Volume 38, Number 174, Part III, September 10, 1973 and any forthcoming revisions. Public participation programs shall include monitoring procedures to maintain an acceptable degree of responsiveness and accountability.

(b) *Objectives.* Objectives of the public participation program developed by the Commission as part of the Master Plan are:

(1) To develop awareness of public preferences by those responsible for preparation and approval of the Master Plan.

(2) To anticipate and help resolve conflicts arising during the study,

(3) To improve information transfer and public awareness of the study,

(4) To provide for periodic reviews in the development of the Master Plan as well as the final review required by the Act, and

(5) To provide for evaluation of public participation in the planning process.

(c) *Standards.* The Commission in meeting the above objectives recognizes that:

(1) Inputs from the public are important for development of the Master Plan;

(2) Participants are to include individual citizens as well as organizations;

(3) The public participation program is to assume the existence of numerous publics and their interests—identified and delineated according to a number of socioeconomic, demographic, geographic, person, and ideological variables;

(4) The public participation process must be continuous: it is to be provided for, encouraged, and assisted throughout the planning process;

(5) The public participation process is to have as a product measurable sets of opinion and other manifestations of the public will in regard to details of the Master Plan;

(6) Inputs from the public into the Master Plan through avenues other than the Commission public participation program should be facilitated; and

(7) Desires expressed by the public are likely to be conflicting and therefore, public participation cannot be substituted for the decision-making responsibility.

**§ 708.4 Required programs and reports.**

(a) The Commission shall prepare a work plan for public participation as part of the Master Plan—Plan of Study. The work plan shall satisfy minimum standards described in this part. The work plan shall describe all substantive administrative and management arrangements to elicit public participation, shall delineate Commission member and staff responsibilities, and shall identify budgetary provisions.

(b) In addition to public meetings and hearings, the public participation program shall include survey research, program evaluation, and information/education activities as described in § 708.5.

(c) The Commission shall recommend long-term public participation activities and programs related to implementation of the Master Plan. These recommendations shall be based on evaluation of procedures and results mandated in this part and carried out during the Master Plan preparation.

(d) The Commission shall issue reports describing the participation program as developed or implemented during the designated reporting period. Each such report shall include as a minimum a brief description of the main participation elicited, the costs of the effort, and the use that was made of the elicited information in the planning process. The reporting periods shall be arranged so as to correspond generally with the main sequential segments of the overall planning process.